

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under the judicially-created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,707,148.

No amendments have been made to the claims. Accordingly, claims 1-16 remain pending in this application.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-16 UNDER THE JUDICIALLY CREATED DOCTRINE OF DOUBLE PATENTING

To expedite prosecution of this application, Applicants have filed together herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to obviate the rejection. However, Applicants do not acquiesce, admit or otherwise concede to the Examiner's assertion of judicially-created doctrine of double patenting. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the judicially created double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

SUMMARY

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable and that this case is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. NSC1P236C1).

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP


Desmond Gear
Reg. No. 52,937

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP
P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
Telephone: (510) 663-1100
Facsimile: (510) 663-0920

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